IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A connection system for the connection of two or more sterile systems, comprising at least a male connecting element forming a closed end of a sterile, fluid-containing system and at least a female connecting element forming ~~the~~ a closed end of a second sterile, fluid-containing system which can be aseptically connected to one another by inserting said male connecting element into said female connecting element, each of said connecting elements having a predetermined breaking point, said breaking points being aligned with ~~arranged~~ one ~~above the other~~ another when the two connecting elements are assembled so that they form a common predetermined breaking point ~~and can~~ enabling the closed ends of said connecting elements to be broken off together and fluid to flow through said connecting elements, ~~with the~~ said predetermined breaking point being located inside the fluid-containing system.

2. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 1, wherein the two connecting elements can be connected to each other in a positively locking manner.

3. (Withdrawn) The connection system according to claim 1, wherein the connecting elements can be connected to each other by means of a screw thread.

4. (Withdrawn) The connection system according to claim 1, wherein the connecting elements can be connected to each other by means of a snap-in connection.

5. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 1, wherein the connecting elements can be connected to each other by means of an adhesive connection.

6. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 5, wherein the adhesive connection is a quick-hardening adhesive.

7. (Previously Presented) ~~The connection system according to claim 1, wherein~~ A connection system for the connection of two or more sterile systems, comprising at least a male connecting element forming a closed end of a sterile, fluid-containing system and at least a female connecting element forming a closed end of a second sterile, fluid-containing system which can be aseptically connected

to one another, each of said connecting elements having a predetermined breaking point, said breaking points being arranged one above the other when the two connecting elements are assembled so that they form a common predetermined breaking point and can be broken off together, with the predetermined breaking point being located inside the fluid-containing system, and a disinfectant ~~is~~ provided between contacting contact surfaces of the connecting elements.

8. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 7, wherein the disinfectant has bonding properties.

9. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 8, wherein the disinfectant is a quick-hardening adhesive.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The connection system according to claim 1, wherein~~ A connection system for the connection of two or more sterile systems, comprising at least a male connecting element forming a closed end of a sterile, fluid-containing system and at least a female connecting element forming a closed end of a second sterile, fluid-containing system which can be aseptically connected to one another, each of said connecting elements having a

predetermined breaking point, said breaking points being arranged one above the other when the two connecting elements are assembled so that they form a common predetermined breaking point and can be broken off together, with the predetermined breaking point being located inside the fluid-containing system, and cyanoacrylate being ~~is~~ provided for connecting the two connecting elements.

11. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 1, further comprising a protective cap having an external contour matched to the male connecting element.

12. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 1, further comprising a protective cap in the form of a male connecting element that is connectable to the female connecting element for the protection thereof.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Canceled).

15. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 1, further including at least two bags and a tube system for the sterile transfer of fluid within a bag system.

16. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 15 for the sterile transfer of biological or medical fluids in a bag system having at least two bags and a tube system.

17. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 15 in a sterile blood bag system for the sterile transfer of blood or blood components.

18. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 15 in a bag and tube system having at least one filter element for the sterile transfer of blood or blood components.

19. (Previously Presented) The connection system according to claim 15 in a bag system for the sterile transfer of infusion solutions or dialysis solutions.

20. (New) A connection system for the connection of two or more sterile systems, comprising at least a male connecting element

forming a closed end of a first sterile, fluid-containing system and at least a female connecting element forming a closed end of a second sterile, fluid-containing system which can be aseptically connected to one another by inserting said male connecting element into said female connecting element such that said male and female connecting elements have an elongated nested portion with said closed portions adjacent one another, each of said connecting elements having a predetermined breaking point, said breaking points being adjacent one another in said elongated nested portion when the two connecting elements are assembled so that said breaking points align to form a common predetermined breaking point enabling the closed ends of said male and female connecting elements to be broken off together to open said connection system for fluid flow between said sterile systems, said predetermined breaking point being located inside the fluid-containing system so that said system remains sealed to an exterior thereof upon breakage of said connecting elements at said common breaking point.

21. (New) The connection system according to claim 20 wherein said common breaking point is located approximately in a longitudinal middle of said nested portion.

22. (New) The connection system according to claim 20 wherein said predetermined breaking points are formed by respective circular notches in said connecting elements.

23. (New) The connection system according to claim 22 wherein said male connecting element has a notch on an inner surface thereof and said female connecting element has a notch on an outer surface thereof such that mating surfaces of said connecting elements when assembled in said nested portion are smooth.